



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER

September 18, 2013

Via FOIAonline

Jason Smathers
Muck Rock News

Re: FOIA Request No. DOC-NOAA-2013-001503

Dear Mr. Smathers,

This letter is in reference to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request entered into FOIAonline on September 3, 2013, for “ the 5 oldest FOIA requests still open in the NOAA FOIA office, including both the request letters and any processing notes associated with the request.” NOAA has determined that the cost for searching for responsive documents will exceed \$20.00. Pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations 15 CFR Part 4.11(e), we are providing you with a fee estimate. The fee estimate is determined in accordance with the uniform fee schedule established in 15 CFR Part 4.11(c) (i) for requesters that fall in the Commercial category.

We estimate that the cost to search for responsive records will be approximately \$612.90. This estimate is based on about three hours of Search time, six hours of Review time and 340 pages at \$0.16/page.

If you choose to limit the request to the five oldest request letters the amount will be under \$20 and there will be no charge.

NOAA requires that you pay the estimated fee prior to receiving the requested documents pursuant to 15 CFR 4.11(i) (2). Please make your check or money order payable to the "Treasury of the United States," and send it to the NOAA Public Reference Facility (SOU57650), 1305 East West Highway (SSMC4), Room 7437, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. In compliance with the FOIA regulations, the 20-business-day time frame for completing your FOIA request stops until payment is received. Once your payment and authorization are received, we will continue to process your request.

If payment is not received by October 16, 2013 or you do not edit the request, your FOIA request will be considered "closed."

Please be aware that not all responsive documents are necessarily releasable under the FOIA. If you have any questions about your request or NOAA's FOIA regulations or procedures, please contact me at 301-713-3540 x206.

Sincerely,

/S/

Wendy Schumacher, NOAA FOIA Officer